
City of Burien Police Department

Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2002 Third Annual Report on Police Performance



Created for the City of Burien by:

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Letter from Chief K. Scott Kimerer



June, 2003

Dear Citizens of Burien,

I am pleased to provide this annual Services Efforts and Accomplishments report for the City of Burien. As your new police chief, it is my commitment to ensure that the people of Burien are informed of the public safety issues and achievements of your police department.

This year showed crime leveling off. After last year's significant decrease, several crime categories continued to drop. I would like to highlight a few of areas that are significant to the well being of your community. After two years of substantial increases in gang-related activity for Burien, last year saw an 11.7% decrease in this category. Also down are robberies, assaults and auto thefts. Our goal of reducing crime and the fear of crime - and subsequently eliminating areas of repeat crimes - continues to be our focus.

Thanks to the Burien City Council's additional investments in the Police Department, our Crime Prevention Unit and Special Emphasis Teams are working with our neighborhoods to develop strategies to keep us safe and solve crime problems. I encourage all of you to be involved with some of our successful programs such as Block Watch and Citizen Patrol. Our Citizen Academy also provides a unique opportunity to learn about police work. In 2003 we will plan to follow up with graduates for our Community Emergency Response Teams to support the city in case of a disaster.

I thank you for your time and attention to this report. I would also like to commend the Burien City Council, city staff, and citizens of Burien for their commitment to the well being of this community and dedication to Burien's continued success.

Sincerely,

K. Scott Kimerer
Police Chief

City of Burien Police

Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2002

Executive Summary

Mission

The mission of the Burien Police Department is to:

Provide quality, professional law enforcement services to improve public safety.

Goals & Objectives

In order to realize their mission, the Burien Police Department has adopted the following goals and objectives:

Goal: Reduce crime and the fear of crime.

Objective: Use information for crime analysis.
Objective: Apprehend offenders.
Objective: Prevent crime.
Objective: Improve citizens' feeling of security.

Goal: Provide high-quality, cost-effective, and accountable services to the City of Burien, WA.

Objective: Provide responsive services to citizens.
Objective: Provide cost-effective services to citizens.

The following report contains information on the service efforts and accomplishments of the Burien Police Department to support its Mission, Goals and Objectives.

Report Highlights

As stated in Chief Kimerer's letter (page 2), the highlights of the year 2002 were:

- the Crime Rate (page 5)
- reduced robberies, assaults and auto thefts (pages 6-7)

Goal: Reduce Crime and the Fear of Crime

The goal to reduce crime and the fear of crime is a standard goal of law enforcement agencies worldwide. Efforts to support this goal vary with variations in laws, limitations and liabilities of law enforcement agencies, community preferences, socio-economic factors and available resources.

The objectives chosen to provide direction for Burien's police department in support of this goal are:

- use information for crime analysis,
- apprehend offenders,
- prevent crime, and
- improve citizens' feeling of security.

The measures on the following pages report the efforts and accomplishments of Burien's police department as reflected in the amount of crime (crime rates and statistics), crime incident case clearance rates, adult and juvenile arrest and charge statistics, workload of crime prevention efforts, citizen communications activities and citizen survey results.

City of Burien Police

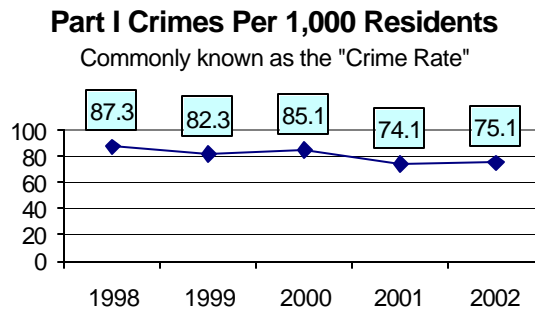
Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2002

Objective: Use Information for Crime Analysis

The "Crime Rate"

Total Part I Crimes

"Part I Crimes" is a category of crimes established by the U. S. Department of Justice Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) that consists of murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, motor vehicle theft and arson. Part I Crimes compared to the population are known as the "Crime Index" or "Crime Rate." (The Crime Rate is known as the Modified Crime Rate when Arson data is included.)



"Part II Crimes" consist of all other crimes not included in the Part I Crimes category. Part II crimes vary due to differences in local laws.

National Modified Crime Rate

The FBI calculates and publishes the national crime rate based on the information sent to them by participating agencies. This information is usually released in the fourth quarter of the following year. The most recent data available as of this report is the crime rate for 2001 (published in October, 2002).

U. S. National Modified Crime Rate (2001)

48.9

City of Burien Police

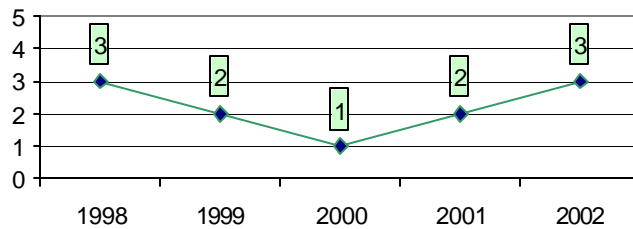
Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2002

Crimes Against Persons

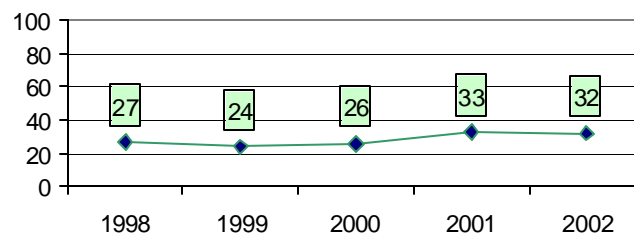
Part I Crimes Against Persons

Part I Crimes include crimes categorized as “violent crimes” or “crimes against persons.” The following are Burien’s Part I Crimes Against Persons for the past five years.

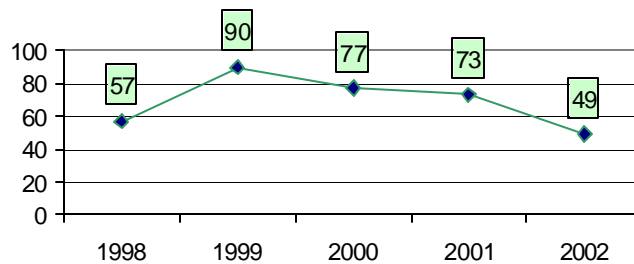
Murder



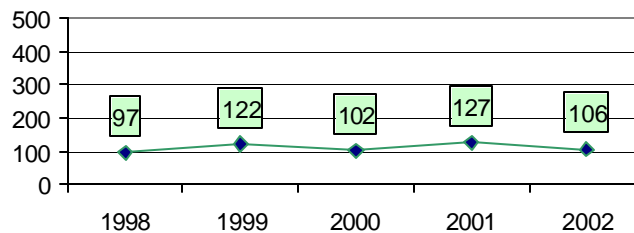
Rape



Robbery



Aggravated Assault



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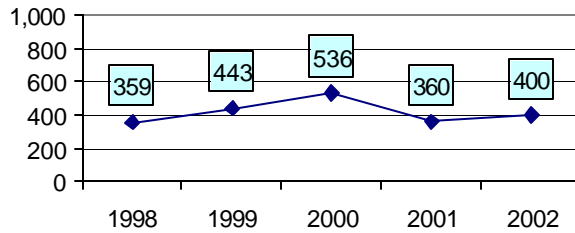
Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2002

Crimes Against Property

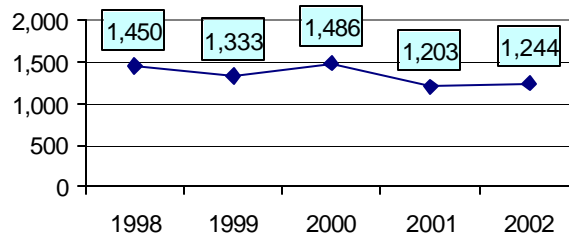
Part I Crimes Against Property

The second group of crimes that make up the Part I Crimes are known as “non-violent crimes,” “crimes against property,” or “property crimes.” The following are Burien’s Part I Crimes Against Property for the past five years.

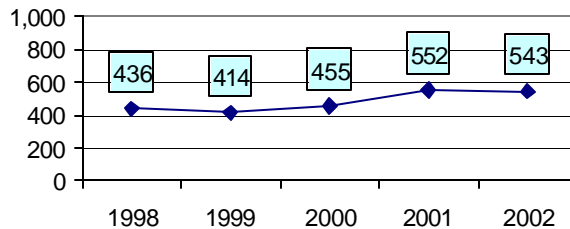
Burglary



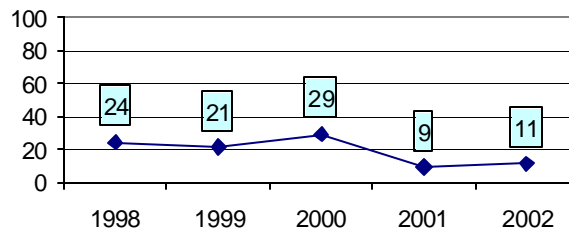
Larceny



Vehicle Theft



Arson



City of Burien Police

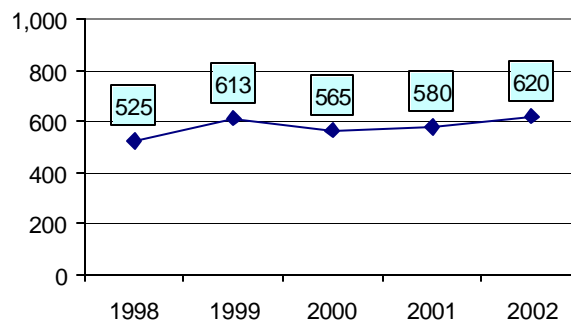
Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2002

Domestic Violence Crimes

In Washington State "Domestic Violence Crime" refers to any crime which is committed by a spouse, former spouse, person related by blood or marriage, persons who have a child in common, former/current roommates, persons who have or had a dating relationship, and/or persons related to the suspect by the parent-child (biological or legal) relationship. In some cases, the age of the victim or suspect may determine whether or not the legal definition above is met.

"Domestic Violence Incidents" includes all documented police activity related to domestic violence incidents which includes all case reports and citations as well as possibly containing other related activity such as Field Interview Reports (FIR) and assistance to other agencies.

Total Domestic Violence Incidents



The most frequently occurring types of domestic violence crimes in Burien in 2002 were:

<u>Crime</u>	<u>Reported Incidents</u>
Assault Fourth Degree	195
Violation of Court Orders, Misdemeanor	92
Vandalism	37
Total Family/Juvenile	36
Assault, Hands	27
Violation of Court Orders, Felony	20
Assault, Knife	15
Assault, ODW	4
Total Fraud/Forgery	3
Total Sexual Offenses	3
Other/Miscellaneous	57

NOTE: There were no domestic violence related homicides in Burien in 2002.

City of Burien Police

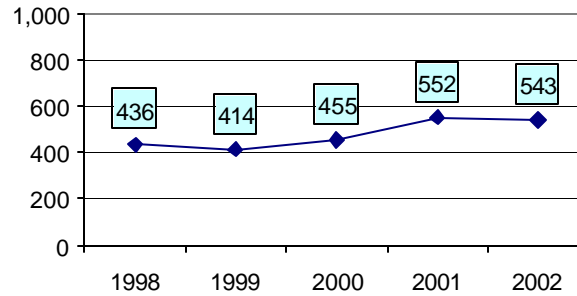
Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2002

Automobile/Vehicle Related Crimes

Vehicle Thefts

Vehicle Thefts includes thefts of all vehicles including trucks, buses, boats, recreational vehicles and other non-licensed off-road vehicles.

Vehicle Theft

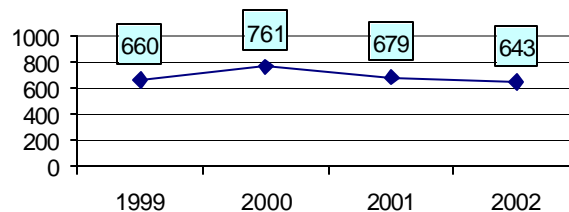


Thefts from Vehicles and Attempted Thefts

Thefts From Vehicles and Attempted Thefts includes thefts of property **from** a vehicle including: any part or accessory item attached to the vehicle (gasoline, tires, tape decks, antennas, etc.), and personal property left in a vehicle (purses, gifts, tools), as well as vehicle prowls (no property successfully taken).

Thefts from Vehicles and Attempted Thefts ("Prowls")

Data unavailable prior to 1999



City of Burien Police

Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2002

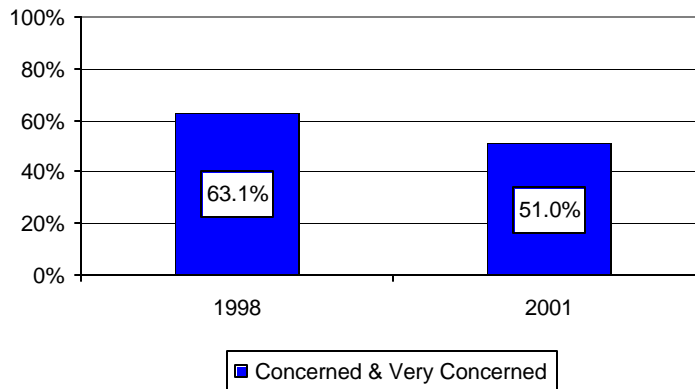
Traffic Incident Information

The City of Burien via First Northwest Group administered the Police Satisfaction Survey again in 2001. The following are the results shown in comparison to the same survey conducted by the King County Sheriff's Office for the City of Burien in 1998.

Citizen Survey Results: Speeding Traffic

In 2001, citizens of Burien were asked how concerned they were about speeding traffic. 21.0% stated they were concerned (rated 4 on a 1-5 scale) while 30.0% stated they were "very concerned." (In 1998, 28.2% of the Burien citizens surveyed stated they were concerned (rated 4 on a 1-5 scale) while 35% stated they were "very concerned.")

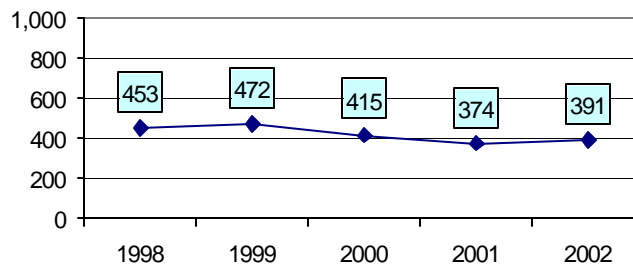
How concerned are you about speeding traffic?



Traffic Report Data

Collision information includes reports for all injury, non-injury and fatality vehicle collisions (including hit and run incidents) taken by the City of Burien Police Department.

Collisions



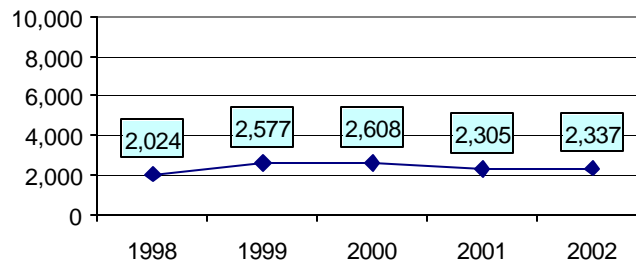
City of Burien Police

Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2002

Traffic Report Data, continued

Citation and Notice of Infraction information includes reports of Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) violations, Moving/Hazardous violations (such as all accidents, speeding and reckless driving), and Non-moving Compliance violations (such as defective equipment and parking violations).

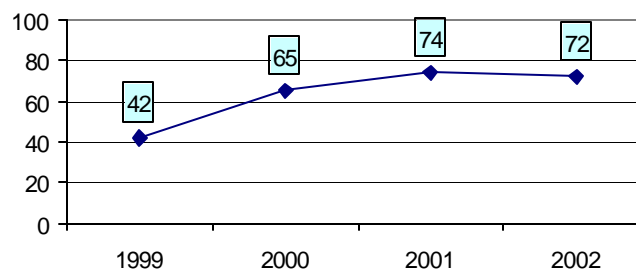
Traffic Citations and Notices of Infraction(s)



Citizen Traffic Complaints includes all reports citizens make regarding chronic traffic violations and requests for traffic enforcement. These complaints are then distributed to Burien's police officers to provide follow-up enforcement and/or a problem solving response.

Citizen Traffic Complaints

Data unavailable prior to 1999



City of Burien Police

Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2002

Objective: Apprehend Offenders

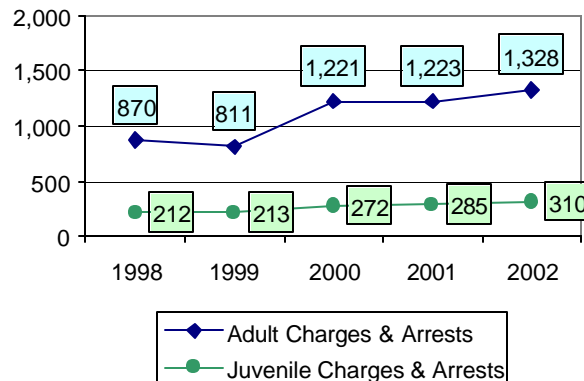
Cases Closed "Cleared by Arrest"

The closed cases below are cases known as "cleared by arrest." Although not every case suspect is "arrested," each suspect in these cases has been recommended for criminal charges that may eventually result in an arrest or another form of punitive action (such as a citation). Cases "cleared by arrest" are sent to the King County Prosecutor's office - with the officer or detective's recommendation to file criminal charges. A prosecuting attorney is solely responsible for the decision to formally file charges and prosecute defendants.

Charges and Arrests

Of all the cases "cleared by arrest" (see above), the following are the charges & arrests by adult/juvenile status. (Note: Numbers will differ from the number of cases "cleared by arrest" due to differences in reporting standards.)

Adult & Juvenile Charges & Arrests



City of Burien Police

Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2002

Objective: Prevent Crime

Crime Prevention Efforts

Crime Prevention Groups

In 2002, Burien added eight new Block Watch groups. 28 residences participated in Block Watch's National Night Out.

The City of Burien co-sponsored two Citizens Academies with the City of SeaTac.

Officer Vowell began working with the Latino Youth Project in 2001 and continued this effort in 2002.

63 multi-unit housing complexes in Burien participated in Burien Police's Crime Free Multi-Unit Housing program. Three of these complexes have completed the program and are certified.

For more information on Crime Free Multi-Unit Housing and/or Citizens Academies, contact Sergeant Henry McLauchlan at 206-296-3333.

Community Training

The Burien Crime Prevention Officer conducted the following training sessions in 2002:

- 8 New Block Watches
- 7 School/Daycare Presentations
- 3 Senior Citizen Personal, Home, Fraud and Vehicle Security Classes
- 3 Crime Free Multi-Unit Housing Management Training Seminars
- 2 Community meetings for Crime Free Multi-Unit Housing
- 1 Women's Crime Prevention & Security Tips Presentation

Property Surveys

As part of the Crime Free Multi-Unit Housing program, and by request from certain permitting agencies, the Crime Prevention Officer also conducted site surveys to recommend modifications or design elements to promote crime prevention. In 2002, the Crime Prevention Officer provided the following:

- 2 Residential Security Surveys
- 1 Commercial Security Surveys

More Information

For more information on Crime Prevention programs and services, contact Sergeant Henry McLauchlan at 206-296-3333.

City of Burien Police

Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2002

Problem Solving Projects/Programs

In 2002, the Burien Police Department in partnership with local businesses, city council members and local community members participated in the following Problem Solving Projects.

Park and Ride

Burien Special Enforcement Team (SET) Officers opened a problem-solving project at the Burien Park and Ride aimed at reducing the number of disruptive transients and juveniles. The problem solving project was a success and today officers rarely find disruptive transients or juveniles at the Park and Ride.

13400 Block Des Moines Memorial Drive South

Burien SET Officers opened a problem solving project on a residence in this area. The residence had a history of drug activity and was a nuisance to the community. SET Officers brought in code enforcement and had the house posted 'Do Not Occupy.' The owners never made the required corrections and the bank foreclosed on the house.

100 Block of Southwest 152nd Street

Managers complained of transients sleeping and urinating in the stairwell. Burien SET Officers conducted frequent area checks to issue trespass warnings. The owners posted 'No Trespassing' signs. After a few months, the owners reported that there was no more evidence of transients trespassing at night.

Ruth Dykeman Children's Center

Burien SET Officers worked with Ruth Dykeman Children's Center (RDCC) staff to address calls for service from the center. Officers drop by the center to form relationships with staff and residents. Reporting procedures were improved. Some were streamlined and others were changed completely. Calls for service have been reduced almost 75%!

State Route 509 Underpasses

Burien SET Officers re-opened an old problem solving project that needed more attention. SET Officers conducted frequent area checks and worked with Washington Department of Transportation to get the underpasses cleaned up and posted 'No Trespassing.' The problem solving project was closed again when ongoing area checks failed to locate any new transients.

Alzheimer's Patient

Officer Maldonado noticed that Burien officers were dealing almost daily with a Burien resident who was suffering from Alzheimer's. The resident was eating at restaurants without the means to pay and getting trespassed from businesses. Officer Maldonado worked with Adult Protective Services and the retirement community where the resident stayed. Officer Maldonado was able to close the project after two months passed without any calls for service regarding this person.

City of Burien Police

Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2002

Objective: Improve Citizens' Feeling of Security

Citizens' Feeling of Safety in Their Neighborhood

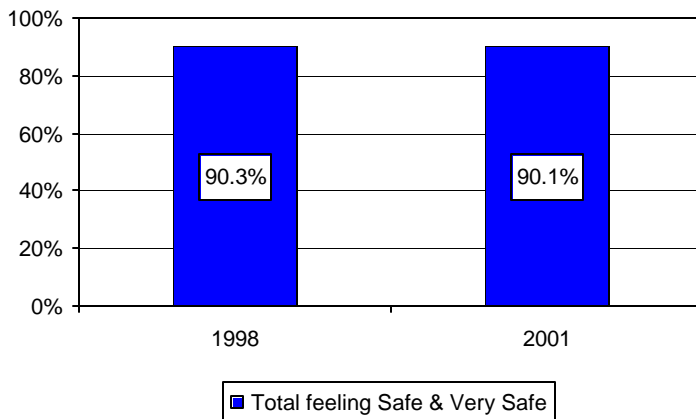
The City of Burien administered the Police Satisfaction Survey again in 2001. The following are results from the survey shown in comparison to the survey results obtained by the King County Sheriff's Office for the City of Burien in 1998.

Citizen Survey Results: Feeling of Safety

Citizens of Burien gave the following responses to survey questions about safety in their neighborhoods.

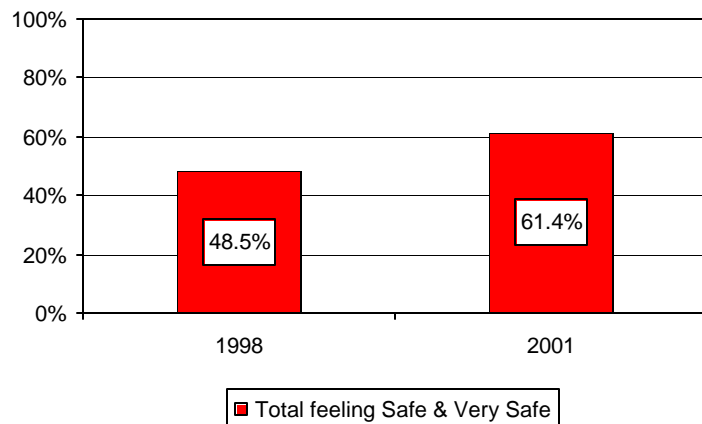
During the day ...

How safe would you feel walking alone during the day in your neighborhood?



... and at night.

How safe would you feel being outside and alone in your neighborhood at night?



City of Burien Police

Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2002

Public Communication and Education Efforts

Newsletters

The City of Burien Police Department submitted articles for publication in the City of Burien newsletter. Copies of these newsletters are available by contacting the City of Burien at (206) 241-4647.

Additionally the City of Burien Police Department published newsletters for those participating in organized crime prevention groups, such as Block Watch or Crime Free Multi-Unit Housing. Copies of these newsletters are available through the King County Sheriff's Office Southwest Precinct at (206) 296-3333.

Training updated

In 2002, the City of Burien held one personal protection for women presentation and three Crime Free Multi-Unit Housing Manager Training Seminars. The Burien Police Department also offers Fraud Prevention, Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design, Check Fraud, and Commercial Business Security classes.

Community Meetings

The Burien Police Department attended community meetings to discuss Crime Free Multi-Unit Housing. The police department also hosted eight new Block Watch meetings in the City of Burien, teaching citizens how to keep their homes and neighborhoods safe. The police department hosted five meetings to discuss ways to reduce crime in one of the city's major apartment complexes. As a community service, the Crime Prevention Officer conducted three Cub Scout tours, participated in local business community awareness days, and counseled young children about the consequences of theft and other crimes.

Citizen's Academies

In 2002, the City of Burien Police Department in partnership with the City of SeaTac Police Department hosted two Citizens Academies. Citizens Academies attempt to educate community members about the details and challenges of policing in the setting of a mock police academy. Graduates normally find this course to be quite entertaining, educational, and enlightening.

**Goal: Provide High-quality, Cost-effective, and Accountable
Services to the City of Burien, WA**

The goal "to provide high-quality, cost-effective, and accountable services" is a goal any service industry might strive for. It reflects a concern for the appropriate and effective use of community resources. Efforts to support this goal are made in partnership with elected officials and police administrators, taking into consideration problem areas, community concerns for quality of life and resources available.

The objectives chosen to provide direction for Burien's police department in support of this goal are:

- provide responsive services to citizens, and
- provide cost-effective services to citizens.

The measures on the following pages report the efforts and accomplishments of Burien's police department using traditional responsiveness measures (such as response times and complaints) as well as citizen survey information. Additionally, cost information is shown in ratios of cost by the population, by available revenue, by staffing and by volume of work.

City of Burien Police

Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2002

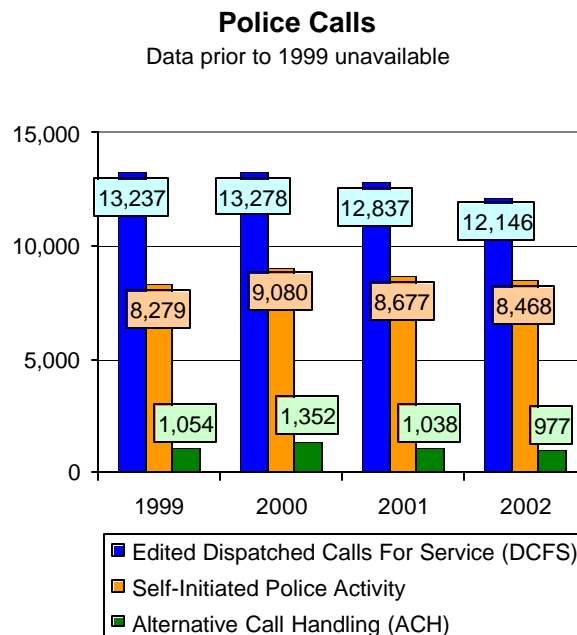
Objective: Provide Responsive Services to Citizens

Response to Calls

Edited Dispatched Calls for Service (DCFS), Self-initiated Police Activities and Alternative Call Handling (ACH) Reports

Police engage in a variety of activities in a workday. Primarily police activity is captured in the number of “calls” responded to during a day. A “call” may be an incident called in by a citizen to the 9-1-1 center or a call may be “self initiated” by the officer responding to a crime they’ve witnessed or to chronic problems in a neighborhood (see Problem Solving Projects on page 14). In addition to the calls responded to by officers, the Alternative Call Handling (ACH) program allows 9-1-1 center operators to take certain police reports over the phone in order to allow police officers more time to respond to citizens who need an officer present at the location of their incident.

Below are the number of Edited Dispatched Calls For Service (DCFS), Self-initiated Police Activities and Alternative Call Handling (ACH) incidents reported for the past four years.



City of Burien Police

Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2002

Response Times to High Priority Calls

Response Times to High Priority Calls

Call Priorities and Response Times

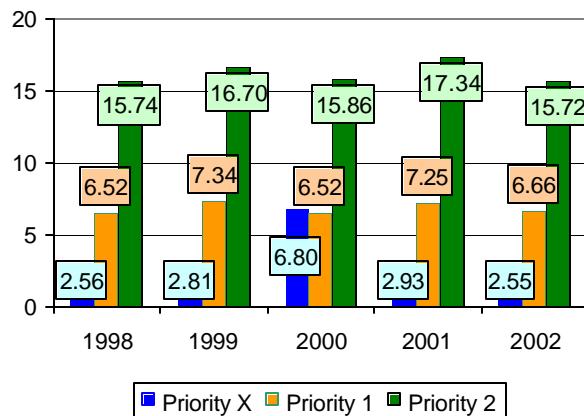
When calls for police assistance are received by the Communications (9-1-1) Center, they are entered into the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system and given a “priority” based on the criteria described below. If the call receiver is in doubt as to the appropriate priority, the call is assigned the higher of the two priority designators in question.

“**Priority X**” designates critical dispatches, those incidents which pose an obvious danger to the life of an officer or citizen. It is used for felony crimes in-progress where the possibility of confrontation between a victim and suspect exists. Examples include: shootings, stabbings, robberies or burglaries.

“**Priority 1**” designates immediate dispatches; those calls that require immediate police action. Examples include: silent alarms, injury traffic accidents, in-progress crimes or crimes so recent that the suspect may still be in the immediate area.

“**Priority 2**” designates prompt dispatches; those calls that could escalate to a more serious degree if not policed quickly. Examples include: verbal disturbances, audible alarms and blocking traffic accidents.

**Average Response Times* to High
Priority Calls in Minutes**



* The 9-1-1 Center for the City of Burien Police measures response times from the time a citizen's phone call is received to the time an officer arrives at the location of the incident.

City of Burien Police

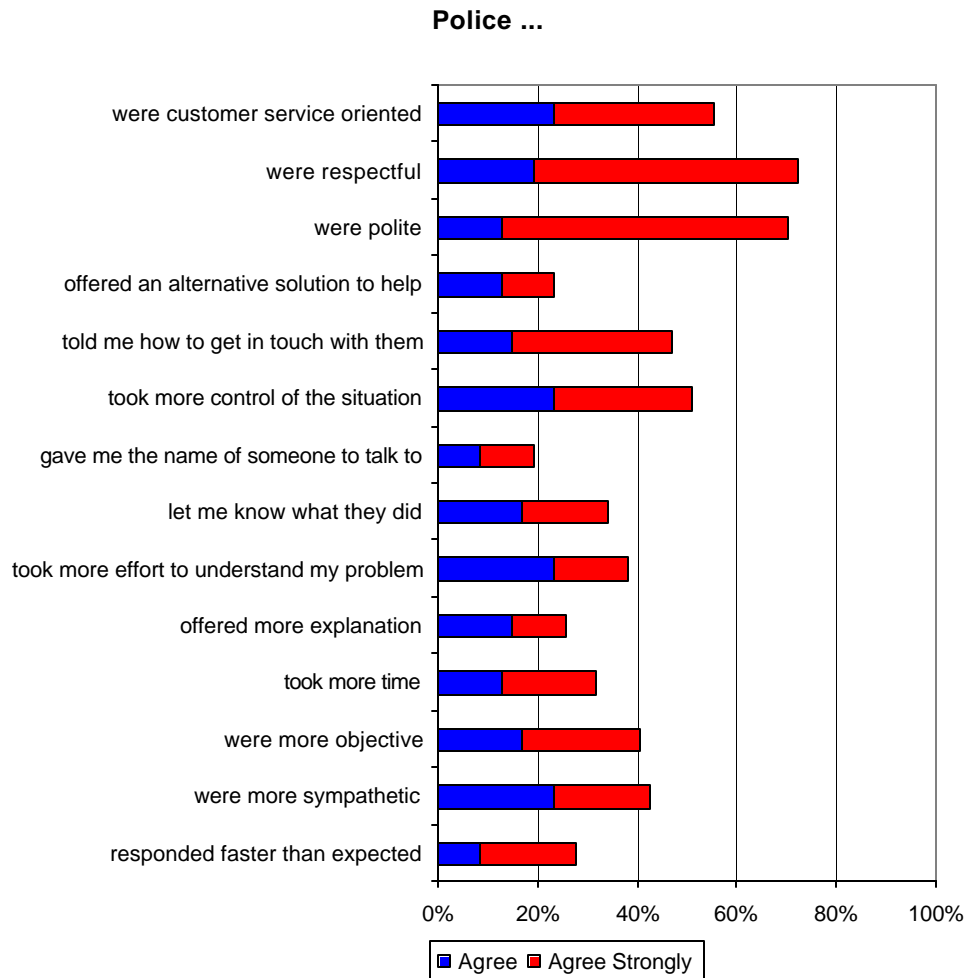
Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2002

Citizen Survey Results Re: Officer Responsiveness

The following are results from the survey conducted by the King County Sheriff's Office for the City of Burien in 2001 regarding how responsive officers were to residents.

Citizen Survey Results: Officer Responsiveness

Citizens of Burien *who interacted with the police* gave the following responses to survey questions about police officer responsiveness.



City of Burien Police

Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2002

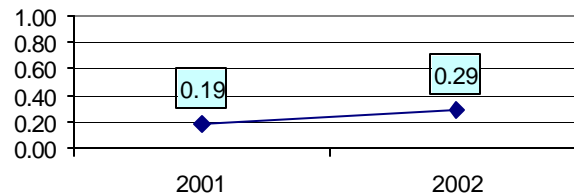
Complaints by Citizens Against Officers

Complaints by Citizens Against Officers

Although citizens may have made formal complaints against officers prior to the year 2000, complaints were not tallied for reporting purposes prior to 2000. Complaint counts prior to 2000 were not available for this report.

Complaints per 1,000 Police Contacts

Comparable data unavailable prior to 2001



	2000	2001	2002
Number of Complaints*	12	4	6
Number of Police Contacts (Edited DCFS & Self-initiated Police Contacts)	22,358	22,036	20,614

*Due to improvements in data collection techniques, year 2000 is not comparable with subsequent years.

City of Burien Police

Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2002

Objective: Provide Cost-effective Services to Citizens

Costs of Services

The City of Burien contracts with the King County Sheriff's Office (KCSO) for police services. Among other benefits, contracting for services from a larger law enforcement agency allows for cost savings through "economies of scale." Specific economies of scale provided through the contract with KCSO include:

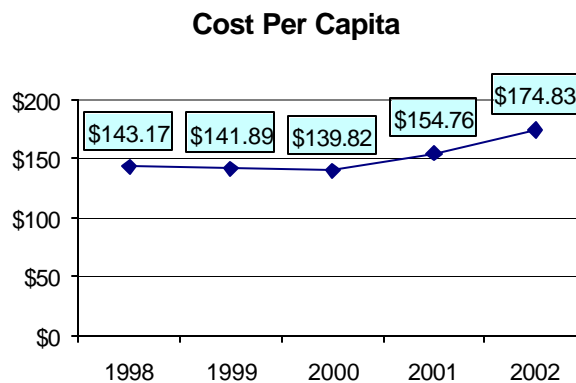
- Existing Mutual Aid Agreements with other law enforcement agencies in Washington State,
- A large pool of officers if back-up help is necessary,
- Coverage if your officers are away,
- Expertise of specialized units to assist officers,
- More experienced officers to select from for staffing, and
- Costs shared throughout the department keeping city costs down.

Costs for police services vary depending on a city's resources and the level and type of police services the community wants. The dollar amounts and staffing levels shown below are taken from the contracts for police services (billed financial exhibits) for the years indicated. The City of Burien may have had additional funds or expenditures for special projects or programs as part of the city's law enforcement budget that are **not** reflected in this report.

The following are four ways of putting the cost-to-services picture together for the City of Burien. (NOTE: Dollar amounts shown have **not** been adjusted for inflation.)

Cost per Capita

Cost Per Capita shows the contract cost for police services divided by Burien's population (for example: year 2002 contract cost (\$5,561,311) divided by year 2002 population (31,810) = \$174.83). (Year 2000 U.S. Census data was the basis for the 2001 and 2002 estimated population used in the calculations shown below. For years prior to 2000, population estimates are based on the 1990 U.S. Census data.)



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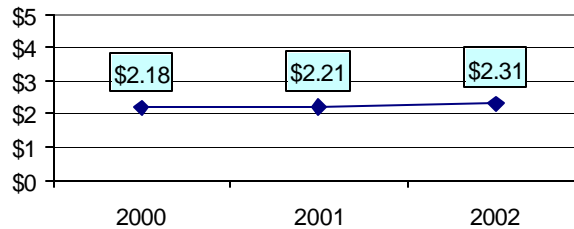
Costs of Services, continued

Cost per \$1,000 of Assessed Real Property Value

Cost Per \$1,000 of Assessed Real Property Value shows Burien's contract cost in relationship to the property values (a.k.a. primary revenue source) of Burien.

Cost Per \$1,000 of Assessed Real Property Value

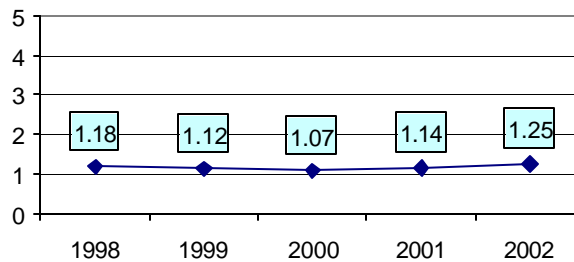
Data unavailable prior to 2000



Commissioned Officers per 1,000 Residents

Commissioned Officers Per 1,000 Residents shows how many commissioned police officers are employed by Burien for every 1,000 residents. This number includes commissioned officers who work in supervisory or other non-patrol related positions as well as any special services officers who work part-time for the city, but does not include professional (i.e. non-police) support staff.

Commissioned Officers Per 1,000 Residents



City of Burien Police

Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2002

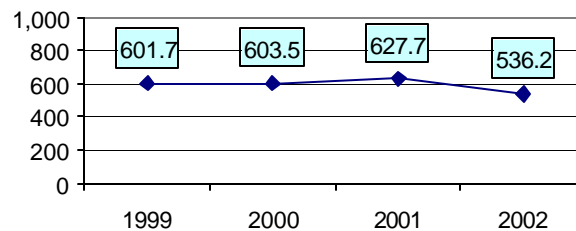
Costs of Services, continued

Edited Dispatched Calls for Service (DCFS) per Patrol Officer

Edited Dispatched Calls for Service (DCFS) Per Patrol Officer gives a picture of the average number of dispatched calls one patrol officer responds to within a year. This number only uses dispatched calls Burien pays for and does not include the number of responses an officer initiates (such as witnessing and responding to traffic violations). Also, the numbers below are **patrol only** and exclude non-patrol commissioned officers (such as supervisors or special duty officers/detectives).

Edited Dispatched Calls for Service (DCFS) Per Patrol Officer

Comparable data unavailable prior to 1999



Glossary

Adult Arrests: An arrest is counted every time an adult is cited for a criminal offense or is booked. More specifically:

1. It includes all adult bookings, plus
2. All adult citations that are classified as criminal non-traffic.
3. When an adult is both cited and booked, it is counted only once.

CAD: See "Computer Aided Dispatch" below.

Cases Cleared/Clearance: This refers to the solving of an offense by arrest or, in some circumstances, by exceptional means (e.g., the suspect died, is imprisoned on another charge, victim refuses to testify, etc.).

Cleared by Arrest: This is a case that is closed by identifying at least one suspect and charges against that suspect(s) are recommended to the Prosecuting Attorney. Although called "cleared by *arrest*" this closure does not require physical booking into a jail or juvenile detention facility. It also does not require the charging of all suspects if/when there are multiple suspects involved in a crime. This category includes criminal citations into district and municipal courts for misdemeanors, felony filings into Superior Court, and all filings into Juvenile Court.

Other clearance codes:

1. "Cleared Exceptional" refers to a case in which a crime and a suspect involved in the crime have both been confirmed but, due to circumstances outside the control of law enforcement, charges are not being recommended to the Prosecuting Attorney. (One example of this is when the suspect is already being charged for the crime by another police jurisdiction.)
2. "Cleared Unfounded" refers to a case in which it is discovered that the reported incident was either not true or was not a crime.
3. "Cleared Administrative" refers to an incident found to be non-criminal in nature, but which requires some police action to close the incident (e.g., handling of lost and found property).
4. "Cleared Inactive" refers to cases in which all investigative leads have been exhausted (or none existed) and the case cannot be closed by any other clearance classifications.

Citation: Often called a "ticket," a citation is a written document issued to a citizen who commits a crime or violates a law. The citation describes the crime and/or the law that has been violated and identifies the punishment that has been standardized by the court system (i.e., the standardized monetary amounts payable for traffic violations). While citations prescribe a penalty for a crime, they may be challenged through the court system. They usually include instructions for the cited citizen to appeal the citation.

Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD): A computerized communication system used by emergency response agencies for dispatching and tracking calls for emergency assistance.

Domestic Violence: Domestic violence is a subcategory of other crimes. Virtually any crime can be sub-classified as domestic violence. In the State of Washington, domestic violence is defined as a crime of violence against the person or property of a spouse, former spouse, persons related by blood or marriage, persons who have a child in common, former/current roommates, persons who have or had a dating relationship, and persons related to the suspect by the parent-child (biological or

legal) relationship. In some cases, the age of the victim or suspect may determine whether or not the legal definition above is met.

Dispatched Calls For Service (DCFS): Dispatched calls for service are calls received in the Communications Center and to which one or more patrol cars are dispatched. For information about "Edited Dispatched Calls For Service (DCFS)" see the Data Sources section of this report.

Felony: Felony crimes are more serious in terms of either harm or loss to persons or property than misdemeanors, and usually are punished by more restrictive methods than citations. Felonies have subclasses (A, B and C) that are based on the extent of harm to a person or the dollar value of loss or damage to property.

Identifier Codes for Priority of Dispatched Police Calls: The Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) systems used by 9-1-1 Centers use a system of codes to identify the types of calls to which police are being dispatched. Along with categorizing the type of incident the codes also assign the call a priority level based on the urgency required for the police response. The following are the priority levels used by the Communications (9-1-1) Center for the various types of police calls:

- Priority 0 (9-1-1 Dispatch): This code is used when a dispatcher sends a police unit to an incident based on the location, name and phone number information automatically generated by the 9-1-1 CAD system based on the origin of the call. This may be necessary when a caller is unable (for whatever reasons) to give the information or gives minimal information before the call is somehow terminated. Open phone lines and disconnected lines to which a call-receiver is unable to re-contact the caller are also examples of Priority 0 calls.
- Priority X (Critical Dispatch): This code is used for incidents that pose an obvious danger to the life of an officer or citizen. Examples are felony crimes in progress, "help the officer" situations, shootings, stabbings, in-progress robberies and in-progress burglaries where the possibility of a confrontation between a victim and a suspect exists.
- Priority 1 (Immediate Dispatch): This code is used for incidents requiring immediate police action. Examples are silent alarms at banks or businesses, silent residential alarms, injury accidents, major disturbances with weapons involved, in-progress burglaries of unoccupied structures, and other types of crimes in-progress (or which have just occurred) where a suspect may still be in the immediate area.
- Priority 2 (Prompt Dispatch): This code is used for events that involve situations that could escalate to a more serious degree if not policed quickly. Examples are verbal disturbances, audible residential or audible commercial alarms and blocking accidents, and incidents of shoplifters in custody who are not causing a problem.
- Priority 3 (Routine Dispatch): This code is used for incidents in which time is not the critical factor in the proper handling of the call. Examples are burglaries or larcenies that are not in progress, "cold" vehicle thefts and abandoned vehicle calls.
- Priority 4 (Dispatch as available): This code is used for special circumstances or "seasonal" calls. Examples are reports of snowball throwing during winter months or firecracker complaints around July 4th.

Misdemeanor: Crimes that inflict harm or loss but to a lesser extent than a felony (e.g., assault fourth degree or simple assault). Misdemeanors usually are punished through monetary payment via a citation and/or other restrictions (such as restraining orders or no trespass orders).

Part I Crimes: This is a category of crimes established by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). It includes criminal homicide (which includes murder and non-negligent manslaughter; but excludes deaths by negligence, attempts to kill, suicides, accidental deaths, justifiable homicide, and traffic fatalities), forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson.

Part I Crimes Against Persons: These crimes are also referred to as "violent crimes." They consist of criminal homicide (as defined above), forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault.

Part I Crimes Against Property: These are burglary, larceny, motor vehicle theft, and arson.

Part II Crimes: This is a category of crimes consisting of all other crimes not included in the Part I Crimes category. Part II crimes vary due to differences in local laws, but typically include one or more of the following crimes: all other assaults (simple), forgery and counterfeiting, fraud, embezzlement, stolen property (buying, receiving and/or possessing), vandalism, weapons (carrying, possessing, etc.), prostitution and commercialized vice, sex offenses (including statutory rape, indecent exposure, etc. but excluding forcible rape, prostitution and commercialized vice), drug violations, gambling, offenses against families and children, driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs, liquor violations, drunkenness, disorderly conduct, and others.

Data Sources

The data compiled in this report was collected from the following sources and, as such, is subject to the data standards and limitations of the source agency:

- City of Burien Police (information regarding: crime prevention activities, problem solving projects and public communication and education efforts)
- Edited Dispatched Calls For Service (DCFS) are the incidents that originate with a phone call to the 9-1-1 Center requesting a police response (either emergency or non-emergency). The totals shown in this report are limited to the DCFS calls that the city is charged for as part of their contract. Actual DCFS counts may be slightly (usually less than 5%) higher. This data is reported via the King County Sheriff's Office Communications Center Section, Research, Planning and Information Services Unit and Contracting Unit.
- Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) annual statistical report *Crime in the United States: 2001*
- Washington State Office of Financial Management (demographic information)
- King County Sheriff's Office:
 - Annual Statistical Reports
 - Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system reports
 - Internal Investigations Unit statistical reports
 - Interlocal Agreements - Exhibit Bs (contract cost and staffing information)
- King County Tax Assessor's Office (real property values)
- Washington State Courts, Courts of Limited Jurisdiction annual caseload reports (traffic citation and Notification of Infraction information); available on the Internet at: www.courts.wa.gov/caseload

Improved Data

One of the functions of a Service Efforts and Accomplishments Report is to highlight data collection and reporting methods that may need modification. Since the first annual report was published in 2000, the research and publishing staff have identified several ways to improve the data presented in these reports. Many improvements were implemented since that time and therefore data may differ somewhat in subsequent reports.